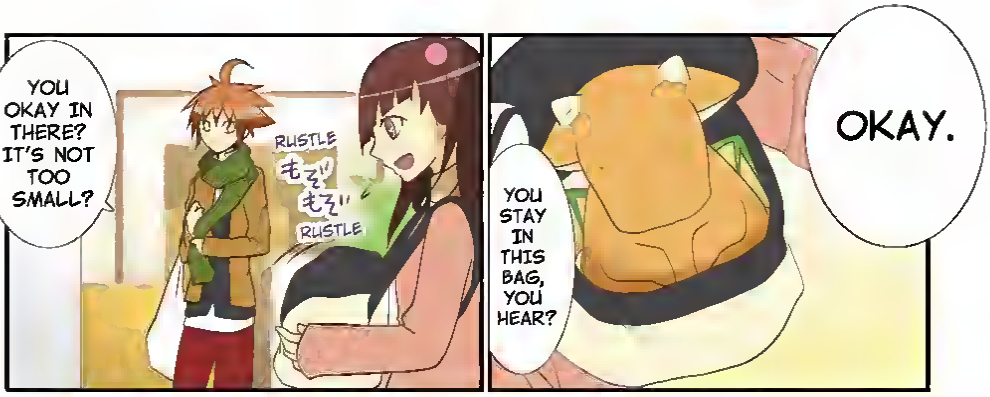


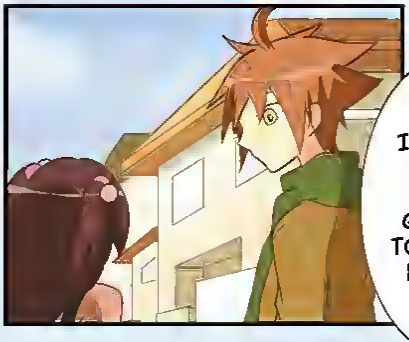
31 THE REASON THEY HIDE

AFTER WE PICKED UP THE MESS INSIDE MOTEGI-SAN'S FRONT DOOR...

...I EXPLAINED TO HER THAT THE "LIZARD" WAS ACTUALLY A DRAGON.

THOUGH SHE SEEMED SKEPTICAL, SHE WAS ALSO INTERESTED, SO I ASKED HER...

...IF WE COULD RELOCATE TO MY HOUSE SO I COULD EXPLAIN MORE

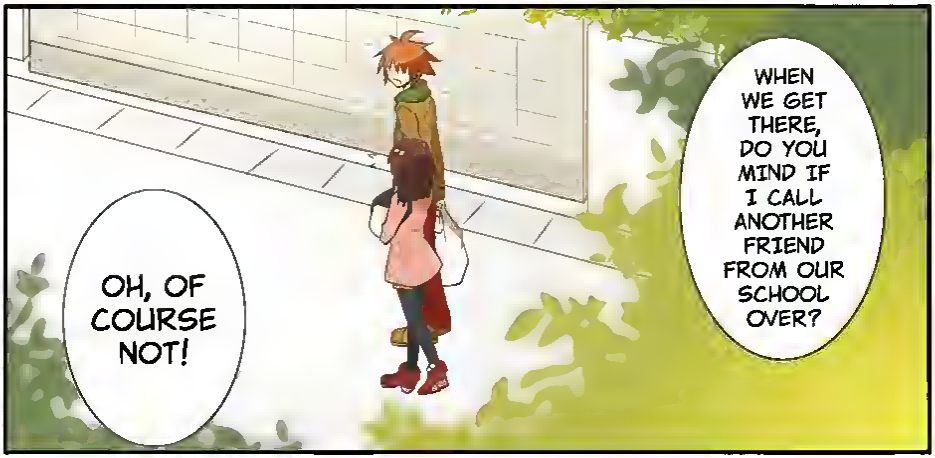


IT'S MY FIRST TIME GOING TO YOUR HOUSE!

IT'S A LITTLE FAR. IS THAT OKAY?

UH-HUH!

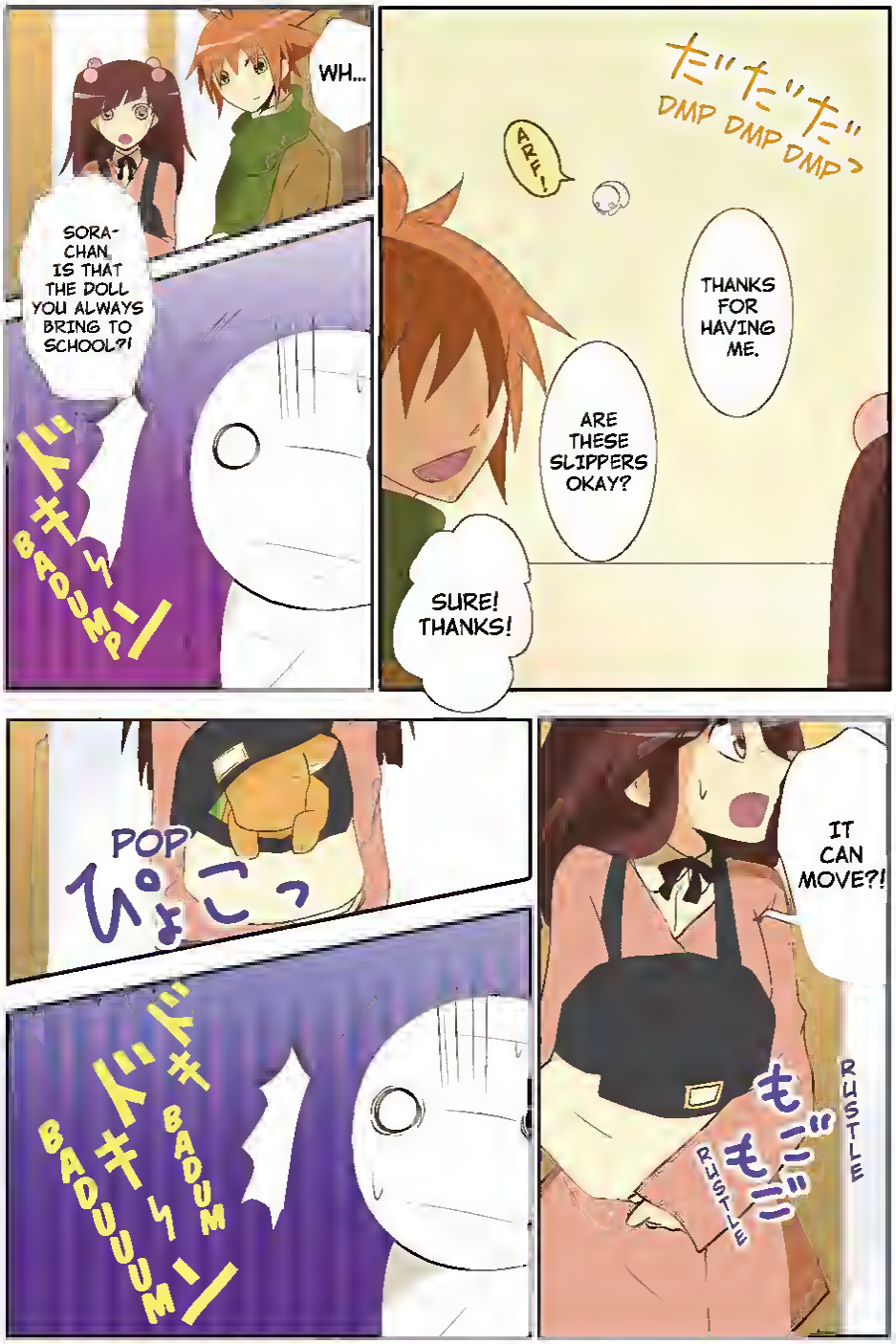
OH, YEAH.


WHEN WE GET THERE, DO YOU MIND IF I CALL ANOTHER FRIEND FROM OUR SCHOOL OVER?
OH, OF COURSE NOT!

I WANNA SHOW THE DRAGON TO HIM, TOO.
HE'S ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE ONE FOR HIM SELF.

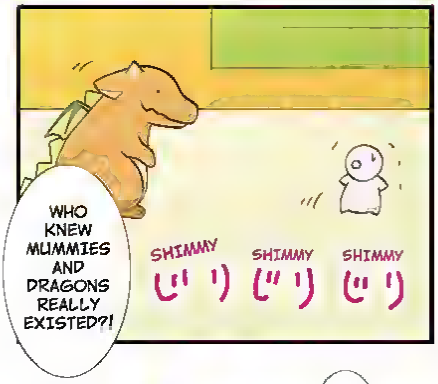
OVERLOAD

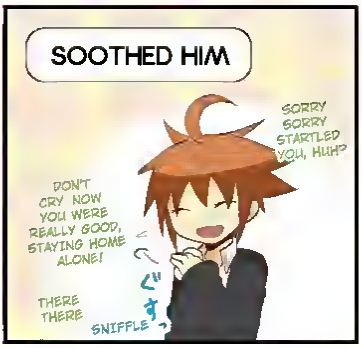
TREMBLE
ぷるぷる
TREMBLE
ぷるぷる
TREMBLE
ぷるぷる
TREMBLE
ぷるぷる
ガチャ
KACHAK
ぴょっ
PYOING
I'M BAAACK!
!

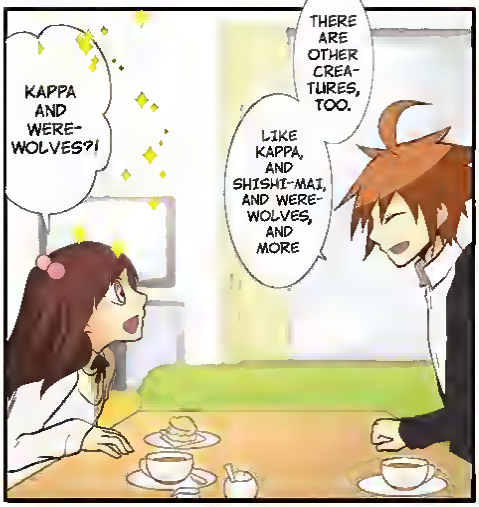

WH...
SORA-CHAN, IS THAT THE DOLL YOU ALWAYS BRING TO SCHOOL?!
バキィ
BADUMP!
だ"だ"だ"
DMP DMP DMP
TRIL~
THANKS FOR HAVING ME.
ARE THESE SLIPPERS OKAY?
SURE! THANKS!
POP
ぴょこっ
バキィ
BADUM
バキィ
BADUUUM!
IT CAN MOVE?!
もごもご
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

IS IT ALIVE, LIKE THIS DRAGON? ERM...
THAT'S RIGHT! HE'S A MUMMY...
COME, MII-KUN. I'M HOME!
SAW ME
WHO'S THIS?
PRETEND TO BE A DOLL
PROMISE
HAPPY SORA'S HOME
STAYING HOME ALONE
CAN'T CRY, CAN'T CRY, CAN'T CRY
SWIRL
MII-KUN?!
GUSH
BURST

REASON

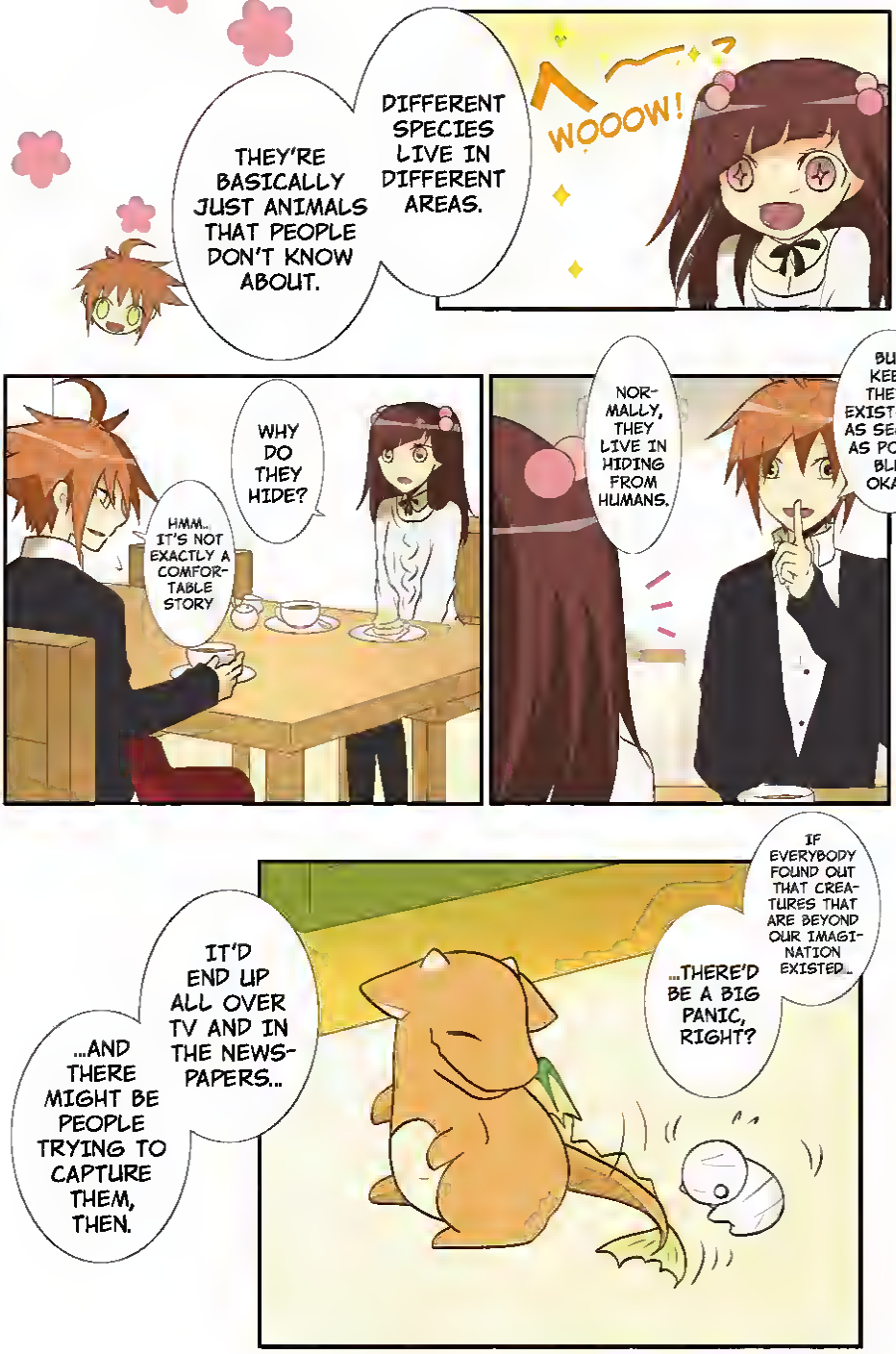

WHO KNEW MUMMIES AND DRAGONS REALLY EXISTED?!
SHIMMY
SHIMMY
SHIMMY

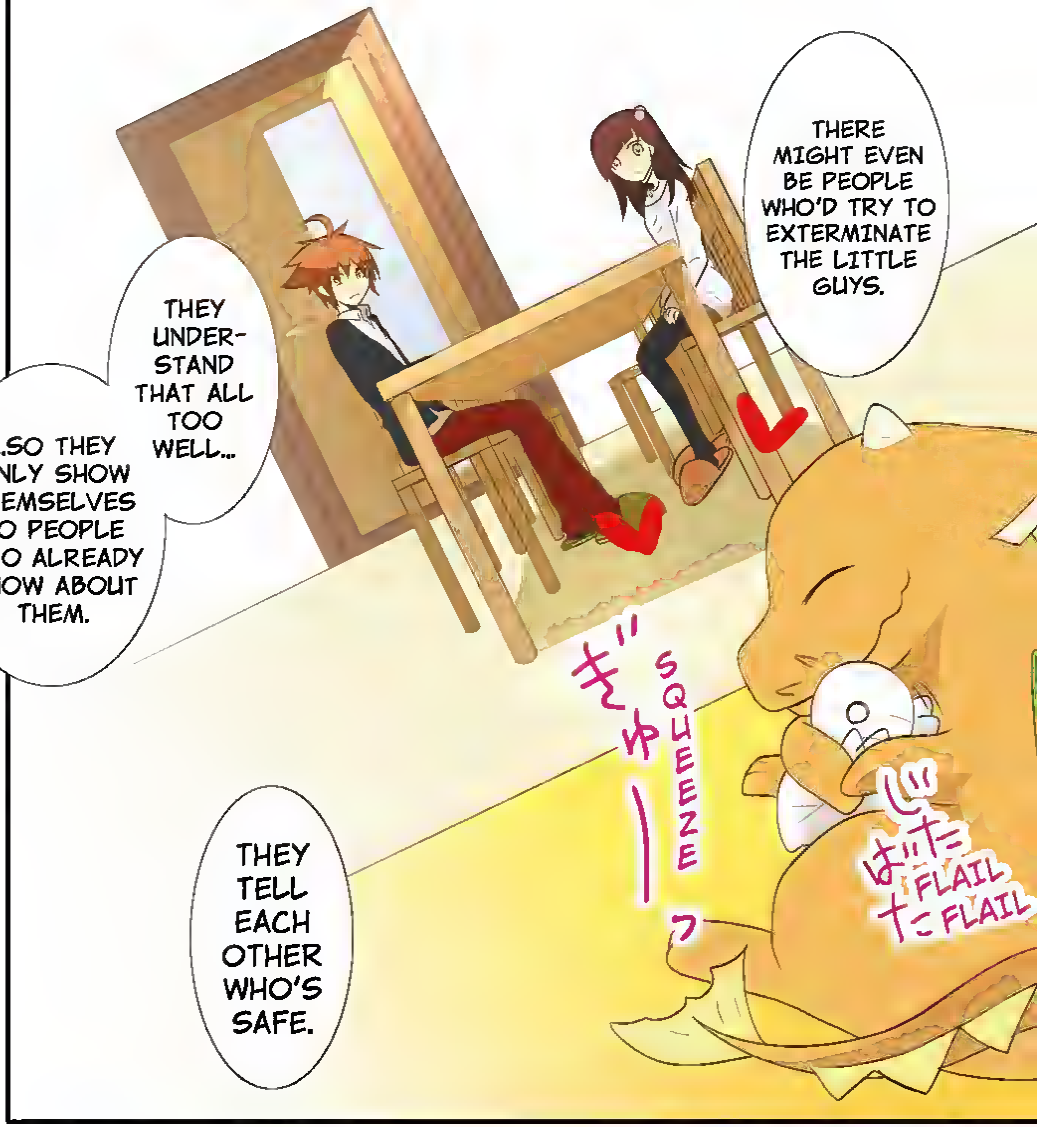

SOOTHED HIM
SORRY SORRY STARTLED YOU, HUH?
DON'T CRY NOW YOU WERE REALLY GOOD, STAYING HOME ALONE!
THERE THERE
SNIFFLE

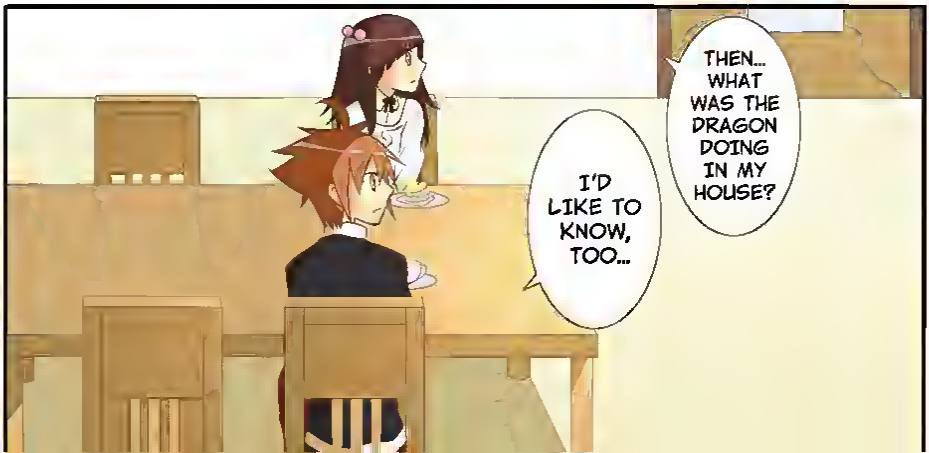

KAPPA AND WERE-WOLVES?!
THERE ARE OTHER CREA-TURES, TOO.
LIKE KAPPA, AND SHISHI-MAI, AND WERE-WOLVES, AND MORE

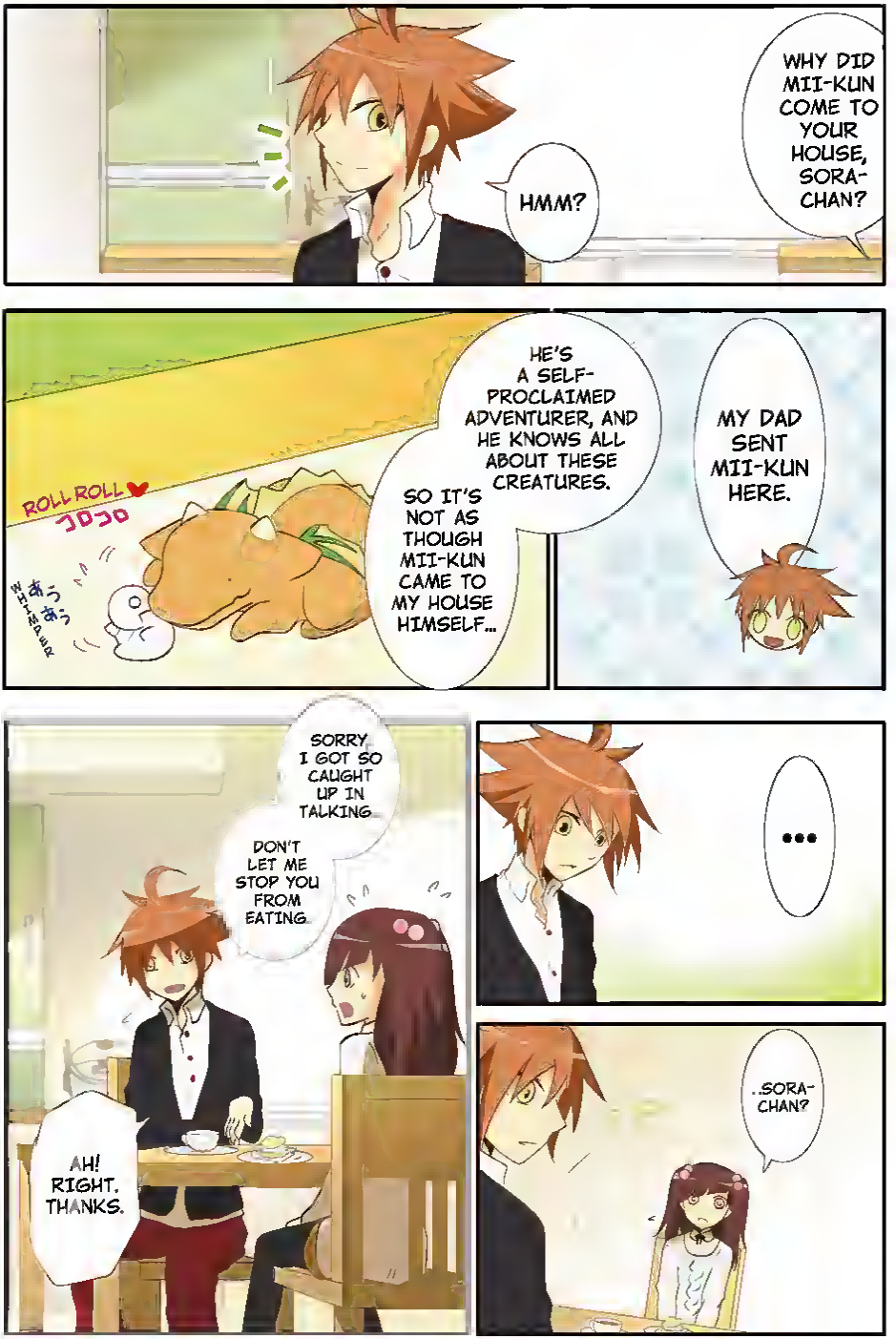
I'M GLAD YOU BELIEVE ME.
I SURE DO! IT'S LIKE A PICTURE BOOK LAND. EXCITING STUFF!

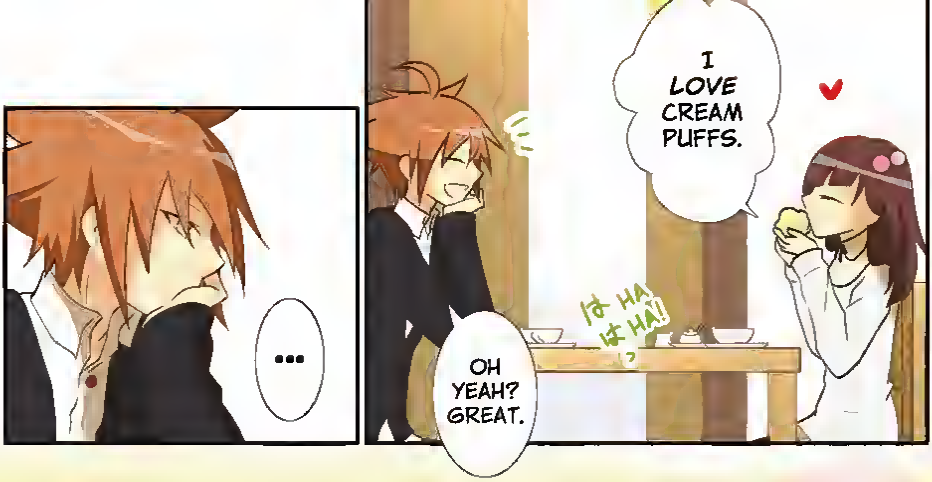
THERE ARE STARS IN HER EYES.
I SURE HAVE! IT WAS A LONG TIME AGO, THOUGH.
KAPPA ARE REAL, TOO? HAVE YOU EVER MET ONE?


THEY'RE BASICALLY JUST ANIMALS THAT PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT.
DIFFERENT SPECIES LIVE IN DIFFERENT AREAS.
WOOOW!
WHY DO THEY HIDE?
HMM.. IT'S NOT EXACTLY A COMFORTABLE STORY
NORMALLY, THEY LIVE IN HIDING FROM HUMANS.
BUT KEEP THEIR EXISTENCE AS SECRET AS POSSIBLE, OKAY?
IF EVERYBODY FOUND OUT THAT CREATURES THAT ARE BEYOND OUR IMAGINATION EXISTED..
...THERE'D BE A BIG PANIC, RIGHT?
IT'D END UP ALL OVER TV AND IN THE NEWSPAPERS..
...AND THERE MIGHT BE PEOPLE TRYING TO CAPTURE THEM, THEN.


THERE MIGHT EVEN BE PEOPLE WHO'D TRY TO EXTERMINATE THE LITTLE GUYS.
THEY UNDER-STAND THAT ALL TOO WELL...
...SO THEY ONLY SHOW THEMSELVES TO PEOPLE WHO ALREADY KNOW ABOUT THEM.
THEY TELL EACH OTHER WHO'S SAFE.
SQUEEZE
FLAIL
FLAIL


THEN... WHAT WAS THE DRAGON DOING IN MY HOUSE?
I'D LIKE TO KNOW, TOO...


WHY DID MII-KUN COME TO YOUR HOUSE, SORA-CHAN?
HMM?
MY DAD SENT MII-KUN HERE.
HE'S A SELF-PROCLAIMED ADVENTURER, AND HE KNOWS ALL ABOUT THESE CREATURES.
SO IT'S NOT AS THOUGH MII-KUN CAME TO MY HOUSE HIMSELF...
ROLL ROLL
コロコロ
SORRY I GOT SO CAUGHT UP IN TALKING.
DON'T LET ME STOP YOU FROM EATING.
AH! RIGHT. THANKS.
...
..SORA-CHAN?



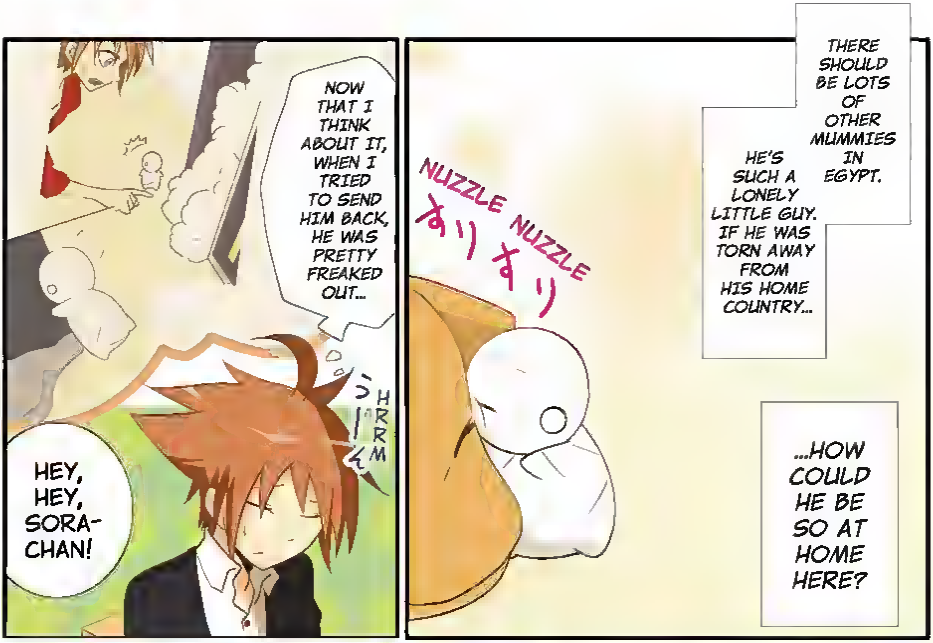
WHY DID MII-KUN COME TO JAPAN?

MY DAD'S LETTER ONLY SAID THAT HE "CAME ACROSS A MOST INTER-ESTING MUMMY."

SO I THOUGHT HE SENT MII-KUN HERE REGARD-LESS OF MII-KUN'S OWN WISHES...

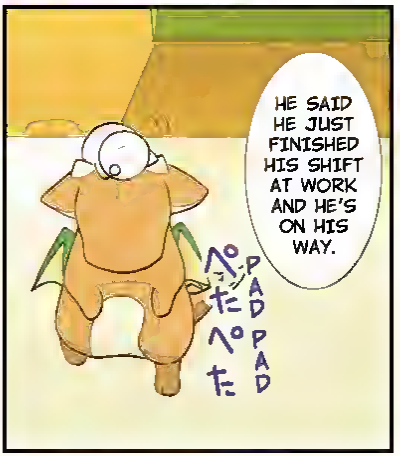
...BUT IF I WAS RIGHT, THEN...

...WHY DOESN'T MII-KUN SHOW ANY SIGNS OF WANTING TO GO BACK TO EGYPT?


NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, WHEN I TRIED TO SEND HIM BACK, HE WAS PRETTY FREAKED OUT...
HRRM
HEY, HEY, SORA-CHAN!
NUZZLE NUZZLE
すりすり
THERE SHOULD BE LOTS OF OTHER MUMMIES IN EGYPT.
HE'S SUCH A LONELY LITTLE GUY. IF HE WAS TORN AWAY FROM HIS HOME COUNTRY...
...HOW COULD HE BE SO AT HOME HERE?

TAZUKI...
...IS GONNA BE THRILLED.

DID YOU CALL THAT FRIEND YOU MENTIONED?
OH! YEAH.


HE SAID HE JUST FINISHED HIS SHIFT AT WORK AND HE'S ON HIS WAY.
ペタペタ
PAD PAD